



Sixth Rock From the Sun



Volume 2, Issue 2

"Serving our Fleet Around the World"

August 2006

Officer in Charge

CDR Randal J. Onders, SC, USN

Dear Families and Friends,

Greetings from the Tip of the Spear! We have passed the mid-point of our deployment and SATURN's Military Department continues to work closely with our Civilian Mariner counterparts to provide outstanding support to the Fleet. Since our last Family Gram, we have steamed over 10,000 miles, to every corner of the 5th Fleet Area of Operations, supporting a wide range of logistics events. We've also been fortunate to spend some quality time in port, particularly in Jebel Ali, United Arab Emirates. Everyone received a well deserved mid-deployment break and there were many opportunities to shop and sightsee in this interesting part of the world.

It's hot here this time of year! In fact, the average daily temperature has not dipped below 100 degrees for several weeks and we have not seen a drop of rain for at least three months. We have all acclimatized, but we're always careful to limit outdoor exposure and above all, drink lots of water! Suffice to say the swimming pools and the local water park have been popular liberty venues.

In this second issue of our deployment Family Gram, you will read about some of our other activities and will receive heartfelt greetings from the crew. We still have work to do, but we look forward to our return to family and friends back home. On behalf of the entire Military Department, thanks for your continued support. We greatly appreciate your positive emails, cards and letters!

COMMAND INTRODUCTIONS

Officer in Charge (OIC): CDR Randal Onders

Assistant Officer in Charge (AOIC): LT Alfred Applewhaite

Assistant Stock Control Officer (ASCO): ENS Jose Gorritz

Material Officer (MATO): CWO2 Julius Arturo Marzan

Senior Enlisted Leader (SEL): SKCS(SW) Paula Moore



Project Hand Clasp donations in Djibouti, Africa. From left, Ship's Purser Barbara DeMarco, CDR Onders, SKCS Moore

From the Senior Enlisted Leader

SKCS(SW) Paula Moore, USN

paula.moore.mil@msc.navy.mil

Our deployment started out busy and slowly came to a trickle, as a few of our customers were called upon to assist with evacuations in Lebanon. We are making good use of our time with training and education. We have 15 Sailors registered for distance learning courses and they are doing very well. June 30 commenced finals week and we are almost completed. We also have one Sailor who is one test away from earning his bachelors degree.

The ship has visited our usual haunts: Bahrain, United Arab Emirates and Djibouti. While in Djibouti, we transferred 40 pallets of Project Handclasp material to the Chaplain for further distribution to the most needy of places. Our crew donated \$170 which will be used toward the purchase of bed frames for the orphanages in the area. We were afforded the opportunity to travel to the base camp in Djibouti where there are several services available for the crew. Most of our sailors made a stop at the PX and the outdoor club for a bite and a lot of water. This area has extreme temperatures in the 110 plus range, we had water with us wherever we went. I mentioned in the last edition, the new NEX facility in Bahrain. It is a wonderful structure. Everything our Sailors may need in one stop, including a very large food court. The complex includes a full service mail and postal center, gym facilities, the CPO club and a salon to name a few.

I hope this finds everyone well. It won't be long now, we're half way there.

Let's be safe out there!

Supply/Admin Divisions

In addition to our usual duties, Quality Assurance and Stock Control Divisions are making preparations for a major offload during the return trip. Our mission has changed over the years and this is just a necessary step to keep up with the times.

Petty Officer Rosa has developed a database to make our administrative processes more streamlined and much easier to use.

We also had the golden opportunity to participate in a COMREL (community relations) project in Djibouti, Africa. This was exciting and it felt great to be a part of such a nice, giving, and rewarding project. We have had ample time to participate in some fun tours during a little liberty port visits. The SATURN military department has enjoyed time off in Jebel Ali and Dubai, UAE.

Our Supply/Admin Team:

ENS Jose Gorritz – ASCO from Puerto Rico
CWO2 Julius Marzan – MATO from Philippines
SKCS(SW) Paula Moore – LCPO from Pennsylvania
SK1(SW) Rosalind Pridgen – LPO from Washington
PS1 David Rosa – Independent Duty PS from Florida
SK1(SW) Eric Hobbs – QA LPO from North Carolina
SK1(AW) Syreatha Hubbard – QA from Virginia
SK2(SW) Michael Johnson – QA from South Carolina
SK2 Joya Davis – QA from Georgia
SK2 Jennifer Williams – QA from Texas
SGT John Motta – Army Food Inspector from Puerto Rico

Some personal notes from our team:

LT Applewhaite would like to say, "To my wife Kristen and son Kristopher, thanks for giving me the opportunity and staying strong during this deployment. Mom, Dad, Mr. and Mrs. Atterbury I could not ask for a better support system. You are truly my heros."

ENS Gorritz would like to say, "To my wonderful wife Cheila and my baby boy Joseph; I love you and miss you every day, and can't wait to be back with you again. Congratulations to my son on your 1st birthday, August 27th! To my parents in Puerto Rico, "Los extrano, ya pronto celebraremos la Navidad y el Anio Nuevo juntos en la Isla!"

CWO2 Marzan would like to say, "To Beth, Joshua, and Andrew. Hello. I know you are all fine as I am here. Just a couple of months to go and we will be home soon. I love and I miss you all."

SK2 Davis would like to say, "Jashwon and Jaeqwon - mommy loves you very much and to daddy, please keep up the good work!"

SGT Motta would like to express, "For my wife Carla Motta, my daughter Alexia, and my son Abdiel; I want to say that I love and miss you all, so very much. I want you to know that daddy will be back home soon enough and can't wait to spend some real quality time with all of you!"

SK1(AW) Hubbard would like to say, "To my daughter Victoria, I love and miss you so much. If you need 'anything', you don't hesitate to ask! Tell everyone back home, hello, and that I love them as well. Be good baby girl!"

SK1(SW) Hobbs would like to express, "Hey dad, mom, Larry, Doug, Big Matt, Butch, Leon, Meat, Margaree, and Sydney! I miss all of you a lot and can't wait to see you guys. I love you and I hope each one of you are doing great and are in EXCELLENT health and blessings. Take care and see you during the holidays this year. GO STEELERS!!!"

SK2(SW) Johnson would like to say happy belated b-day to Breonna Johnson who is 7 years old as of August 6, 2006. I would also like to say happy upcoming B-day to Demetrius Johnson for the month of Sept 13, 2006 who will be turning 6 years old. To my other two children Darius Daquan Johnson, and Tamia Aliya Isis Johnson I hope you are having a good summer and daddy will be home soon. Time to get ready to get back to school, keep up the good work. To Tamika Mayes I miss you very much, and will be home soon. love you!!!



Supply/Admin Division – Starting from the left.

Top Row: From Left, SK1 Hobbs, SGT Motta, SKCS Moore

Middle Row: SK2 Williams, SK2 Davis, SK1 Pridgen

Bottom Row: SK2 Johnson

Missing from Picture: ENS Gorritz, CWO2 Marzan, SK1 Hubbard and PS1 Rosa



ADP Division - Starting from the left.

Top Row: IT2 Headrick, ITC Rice

Bottom Row: IT2 Brown, IT3 York, ET1 Blaylock, IT1 Mosley
ITSN Grant

ADP Division

Welcome back to another SATURN family newsletter from the Automated Data Processing Division. We first want to welcome two new shipmates; they are IT3 Preston Joyner from Greenville North Carolina, and IT3 Jonathan Kerns from Lumberton North Carolina. They have hit the ground running, and become an integral part of the division in a short period of time.

We have spent the last couple of months completing an extensive inventory of all of our computer assets onboard, not a small task to complete. ADP was also working hard on the completion of the Navy's Information Assurance Training requirements. We have visited some unique places since our last newsletter, places such as Bahrain, Djibouti, and Jebel Ali.

We would like to take a moment to say a couple hello's to our families back home:

From: Raymond L. Rice, ITC(SW)

To: Family

I hope this finds everyone doing well, I miss you all very much, especially my boys. To Cameron, Kaylen and Ashton "Poppy will be home soon". To Sherry, I love and miss you. Momma, Daddy, Kelly and Mark and the rest of the family, I miss you all, and see you soon. Love ya.

From: Troy Blaylock, ET1(SW/AW)

To: Family

To my family and friends, it is hot here but we are doing

fine. We have been underway for a long time. Thank you for the Readers Digest. It makes for nice reading on long bus rides. I wish I could be home with you. See you soon!

From: Terrance Mosley, IT1(SW)

To: Family

I would like to say hi and hello to my mother and the rest of the family. Every thing is fine and all is well here with me. I'm enjoying my last cruise on the water before my retirement in June 2007. The port visits are great, but very hot and humid. I can't wait to see you'll again. Take care, have fun and enjoy life.

From: Sir Leanord Brown, IT2

To: Family

Hey all, love you.

From: Jeremy Headrick, IT2

To: Family

Mom and Dad I'm doing good, the deployment hasn't killed me, can't wait to see you guys, Love Jeremy

From: Preston Joyner, IT3(SW)

To: Family

Have fun in Alaska, and I'll see you all soon, also give Leslie my address to the ship.

From: Jonathan Kerns, IT3

To: Family

Hello everyone, I'm doing fine and seeing new things, all is well.

From: Jason York, IT3

To: Family

Hi Mom and Dad, I am doing well and learning very much, but can't wait to come home and see everybody. Miss you lots, and say hi to Dexter for me. Thank you to everyone at the First Southern Baptist Church. The letters and care packages you send are much appreciated, and mean more than you know.

From: William Grant, ITSN

To: Family

Hi everyone just wanted to let you know that I am doing OK and missing all of you. We are about halfway done and ready to come home. I'm doing great and having lots of fun. Hi Baby, I love you! Good luck in starting school this year, Hope you do great. Well that's all I got for now. I love you all and hope your aren't missing me to much. I can't wait to come home.

Operations Division

The Operations Department is helping to carry on a proud tradition of service to the fleet through logistics support. Our job is never ending and so we greet our challenges with zeal and determination to make each day better than the last. Our superb department includes OS1(SW) Larry Smith, OS3 Anthony J. Castello, OSSA Anthony Spencer, OSSN Richard Fleming, OSSN Brandon Coss and me, OSC(SW) Jim Schaefer. It has been a great pleasure working with this fine team of gentlemen who value success and the Navy Core Values like no others I have ever worked with. You should be proud of them, for they have done our country a great service!

Personal Notes:

From OS1 Smith:

To All My Family and Friends, Hang in there. We are over the hump. I miss you all and look forward to seeing all of you.

From OS3 Castello:

Michelle and Destiny, Hello once again. Daddy is okay. I'm halfway there, I'm almost home. Stay strong for me. I love you guys. God Bless!

From OSSN Fleming:

Ashley, Kids, and Family, Just wanted to tell you how much I love you and how much I miss you. I will be home soon, but not soon enough to me. I can't wait to be able to hold you all in my arms, and give you the gifts that I bought for you. You will like them, I promise. Ethan and Chloe, daddy misses you and can't wait to play with you guys again. Ash, you better know I miss you and will never again let you go anywhere without me. Mom, Dad, and David, I miss you guys too, I can't wait to be able to have a good family dinner again. To the rest of my family, I love everyone and as soon as I get finished, I will be around to see everyone. I love you all. Love, Rich

From OSSN Coss:

NO WORRIES! NO WORRIES!

Expect letters. Things are going well. I will be back before you know it. Love, Brandon

From OSSA Spencer:

I am on my way home for good.
OSSN Spencer

From OSC(SW) Schaefer:

Amy and Joseph, We haven't had many Days of Thunder, and sometimes it seems like Mission Impossible, but we have more than A Few Good Men to get the job done. There is no Risky Business to worry about, and although we are Far and Away, you are both close to my heart. Amy, I look forward to sharing a Cocktails and Dreams with you! Joseph, you are my life, pride and joy and I am very proud of you!



Operations Division – Starting from the left. OS1 Smith, OSSN Coss, OS3 Castello, OSSA Spencer, OSC Schaefer

Promotions/Awards/Qualifications

Congratulations to the following personnel who were selected for promotion to the next higher pay-grade since the last issue:

SK3 Williams – Advanced to SK2

ITSA Grant – Advanced to ITSN

The following personnel received end of tour/personal awards:

ET1 Blaylock – Navy & Marine Corps Achievement Medal

IT3 Kerns – Flag Letter of Commendation

IT2 Brown – Good Conduct Medal

SK2 Johnson – Good Conduct Medal

OSSN Coss – OIC Letter of Commendation

The following received the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (GWOTEM) and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal (GWOTSM).

OSSN Coss – GWOTEM & GWOTSM

SK2 Davis – GWOTEM

OSSN Fleming – GWOTSM

IT3 Joyner – GWOTEM

IT3 Kerns – GWOTEM

ITC Rice – GWOTEM & GWOTSM

Selected for Sailor of the Quarter.

PS1 Rosa (2nd Quarter Calendar Year 2006)

Selected for Junior Sailor of the Quarter.

OS3 Castello (2nd Quarter Calendar Year 2006)

Qualified Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist (ESWS)

SK2 Johnson – Re-qualified

HAIL & FAREWELL

Welcome Aboard to the following new shipmates.

CWO2 Marzan
IT3 Joyner
IT3 Kerns

Important Information

MAIL

If you wish to send mail to one of our Sailors, please use the following format.

Sailor's Name
USNS SATURN (TAFS 10)
MILITARY Department
FPO AE 09587-4052

Emergency Points of Contact

Duty Chaplain: 757-277-4608

American Red Cross: 1-800-696-3873 or 1-877-272-7337

<http://www.nmcrcs.org/>

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society can provide interest-free loans or grants to help with *emergency needs* such as:

Emergency Transportation
Funeral Expenses
Medical/dental Bills (patient's share)
Food, Rent, and Utilities
Disaster Relief Assistance
Child Care Expenses
Essential Vehicle Repairs
Unforeseen Family Emergencies

How to apply:

1. Servicemember or eligible family members who have an emergency need should contact the nearest NMCRCS location and make an appointment to be seen by an NMCRCS caseworker. Bring your ID card and latest LES, if available, with you. If that office is closed and the emergency is of such a nature that it cannot wait until the next business day (e.g. death in the immediate family), the answering machine will provide instructions for obtaining "after hours" assistance.

2. When there is no NMCRCS office in the area, an available Army Emergency Relief, Air Force Aid Society, or American Red Cross Chapter Office can process your request on behalf of the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society. If you need emergency assistance after hours, please call: ARC Armed Forces Emergency Service Center (877) 272-7337



SATURN Bowl kickoff – A little game of flag football at the Command picnic in Dubai, U.A.E



In Spain, they have the running of the Bulls. However in, Djibouti, Africa it's the running of the Camels.



We all took a little time out to throw a surprise birthday party for OSC Schaefer.

Once Again, Thank you for all the love and support you have given us. Without you we would not be able to make this possible.